[Mr. C. S. Krishnaswami Aiyar.[

Legislature. A provision of Rs 10,000 for the amelioration of the depressed classes in the State is also included in the budget.

21. *Public Service Commissioner.*—This time last year, the House was told that the report of the Public Service Recruitment Committee appointed to enquire into and report on the question of recruitment to Public Service was engaging the attention of Government. Since then an officer of high standing was appointed to examine the question in all its aspects and submit a report on the principles to be followed by Government in their future policy in the matter. He was also asked to prepare a scheme for the constitution of a Public Service Commission for the State. This Officer submitted his report to Government in March last. The report has been carefully considered by Government. They are of opinion that the institution of a central authority for recruitment of Public Service will dispose of many of the objections raised against the method of appointment resorted to by the departmental officers. But, at the same time, they consider that owing to the comparatively small size of the State and the quantity of work to be turned out, there is no necessity at present for an expensive Public Service Commission. An officer of high status has therefore been appointed as the Public Service Commissioner to hold office for a period of three years. The scheme will be worked tentatively for three years at the end of which the position is proposed to be reviewed in the light of the conditions then existing. The provision required in this connection is made in the budget.

22. *Standardization*—Closely allied to the question of bringing all recruitments to the Public Service to a common basis is the question of the standardization of salaries. The House is aware that Government have already sanctioned certain proposals for standardizing the pay of the officers of the State service. This scheme, apart from being a measure of ultimate retrenchment of expenditure, is also found to be a necessary preamble to the proper functioning of the Public Service Commissioner. Before the standardization, the number of varying scales of pay was so large that any attempt at laying down definite principles for recruitment to Public Service on a common basis would have been beset with considerable difficulties. The rearrangement of the large number of different scales of pay into a much smaller number of groups has, however, removed these difficulties and it is hoped that with these acilities, the Public Service Commissioner will find it possible nd easy to so adjust recruitment to Public Service as to give, as far as possible, equal chances to men with equal qualifications.

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